

10 each of said rail members also having an air-bearing surface which is alternately
11 brought into contact with and separated from said surface of said medium, said air-
12 bearing surface being generally parallel to said surface of said medium.

1 10. (Amended) A slider, comprising:
2 a body;
3 a transducer for transferring information to and from a rotating disk medium
4 during read and write operations; and
5 first and second rails, wherein each of the rails has a leading edge that faces into a
6 general direction of relative motion between the slider and the medium, a trailing edge
7 that faces away from the direction, and an air-bearing surface, the leading edge has a
8 width that is substantially perpendicular to the direction, the trailing edge has a width that
9 is substantially perpendicular to the direction, the width of the leading edge is
10 substantially narrower than the width of the trailing edge, and the leading edge is a
11 pointed tip that extends to the body and is spaced from outer side surfaces of the body.

1 40. (Amended) A slider, comprising:
2 a body;
3 a transducer for transferring information to and from a rotating disk medium
4 during read and write operations; and
5 first and second rails that extend from the body towards the medium, wherein
6 each of the rails has a leading edge that is part of a curved surface and faces into a general
7 direction of relative motion between the slider and the medium, a tapered width adjacent
8 to the leading edge, a trailing edge that faces away from the direction, and an air-bearing
9 surface that faces the medium, the leading edge, trailing edge and tapered width extend
10 between the air-bearing surface and the body, and the leading edge is narrower than the
11 trailing edge.

Cancel claims 17-19, 23-28, 41-47, 51-53, 62 and 65.

Add the following claims:

1 70. A slider, comprising:
2 a transducer for transferring information to and from a rotating disk medium
3 during read and write operations; and
4 first and second rails, wherein each of the rails has a leading edge that faces into a
5 general direction of relative motion between the slider and the medium, a trailing edge
6 that faces away from the direction, and an air-bearing surface, the leading edge has a
7 width that is substantially perpendicular to the direction, the trailing edge has a width that
8 is substantially perpendicular to the direction, and the width of the leading edge is
9 substantially narrower than the width of the trailing edge, each of the rails includes a V-
10 shaped portion, a narrow part of the V-shaped portion is the leading edge and a wide part
11 of the V-shaped portion is the trailing edge.

1 71. A slider, comprising:
2 a transducer for transferring information to and from a rotating disk medium
3 during read and write operations; and
4 first and second rails, wherein each of the rails has a leading edge that faces into a
5 general direction of relative motion between the slider and the medium, a trailing edge
6 that faces away from the direction, and an air-bearing surface, the leading edge has a
7 width that is substantially perpendicular to the direction, the trailing edge has a width that
8 is substantially perpendicular to the direction, and the width of the leading edge is
9 substantially narrower than the width of the trailing edge, each of the rails includes a
10 wedge-shaped portion, a narrow part of the wedge-shaped portion is the leading edge and
11 a wide part of the wedge-shaped portion is spaced from the leading edge, each of the rails
12 includes a rectilinear portion between the wedge-shaped portion and the trailing edge, and
13 the narrow part of the wedge-shaped portion is aligned with an inner side of the
14 rectilinear portion and spaced from an outer side of the rectilinear portion.